

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 and 26-50 stand cancelled. Claims 16-22, 24-25 and 53 are amended and new claims 54-58 are added. No new matter has been added by virtue of these amendments; support therefor being found throughout the specification and in the original claims of the application. For instance, support for the amendments and newly presented claims can be found at least at pages 11-12, and Examples 4, 7, 8 and 13 of the present application.

As an initial matter, it is believed the amendments may be properly entered at this time, i.e. after final rejection, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.116, because the amendments do not require a new search or raise any new issues, and they reduce issues for appeal. Indeed, it is respectfully submitted that the within amendments place the application in condition for allowance. Thus, entry of the amendments at this time is earnestly solicited.

The Office Action lists only one rejection. In particular, claims 16-25 and 51-53 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, for recitation of certain terms and phrases which allegedly render the claims indefinite.

In one aspect of the rejection, claim 16 is rejected for recitation of the phrase "a compound capable of reacting at the primary amine group of the aminoalkyl moiety $-(CH_2)_n-NH_2$...". In another aspect of the rejection, claim 16 is rejected for step (c) which recites "optionally converting a compound of general formula I so formed into another compound of general formula I...."

Claim 16 has been amended to remove each of these phrases and to further define and clarify the features of the invention. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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